

Message Text

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ORIGIN DLOS-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 OES-03 SS-15

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DRAFTED BY D/LOS:OESKIN:MLK

APPROVED BY D/LOS:JNMOORE

T - MR. CRAFT

L/OES MR. LEITZELL

AF/C - MS. HALL

EUR/NE - MR. ACHILLES

EUR/WE - MR. BEIGEL

EA/J -MR. DEMING

EUR/SOV - MR. ZOOK

S/S - MR. ORTIZ

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R 052139Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

INFO USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 184733

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS: COMMITTEE I ISSUES AND GROUP OF FIVE

1. WE WISH TO KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH MEMBERS OF GROUP OF FIVE REGARDING PLANS FOR INTERSESSIONAL WORK ON DEEP SEABED ISSUES (COMMITTEE I). ACTION ADDRESSEES (LONDON, MOSCOW, TOKYO, PARIS) ARE REQUESTED TO MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS WITH APPROPRIATE HOST GOVERNMENT LOS OFFICIALS: USG FULLY SUBSCRIBES TO VIEW REFLECTED IN RECENT GROUP OF FIVE MEETING
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IN TOKYO THAT THERE SHOULD BE AN ACTIVE INTERSESSIONAL WORK

PROGRAM ON DEEP SEABED REGIME ISSUES. WE HAVE THROUGH OUR EMBASSY AND DIRECTLY BY PHONE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH PAUL ENGO OF THE CAMEROON (COMMITTEE I CHAIRMAN). IN TELCON WITH LEIGH RATINER (DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR) ON JULY 29, ENGO INDICATED THAT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO HOLD INTERSESSIONAL MEETING ON COMMITTEE I ISSUES IN YAOUNDE THIS SUMMER AS ORIGINALLY PLANNED. HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE MADE TO HOLD SESSION POSSIBLY IN JANUARY. ENGO ENCOURAGED U.S. REP AND POSSIBLY REPS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES TO VISIT YAOUNDE IN AUGUST TO CONSULT WITH ENGO IN HIS PREPARATIONS FOR INTERSESSIONAL COMMITTEE I MEETINGS AND FOR GROUP OF 77 MEETING. HE SAID GROUP OF 77 SCHEDULED TENTATIVELY TO BE HELD IN ALGIERS IN EARLY OCTOBER. WE SUGGESTED TO ENGO THAT HE CONSIDER POSSIBILITY OF HOLDING

TWO INTERSESSIONAL MEETINGS, THE FIRST IN NEW YORK IN LATE OCTOBER/EARLY NOVEMBER. ENGO WAS RECEPTIVE TO IDEA AND INDICATED HE COULD POSSIBLY GO DIRECTLY FROM ALGIERS TO NEW YORK TO HOLD MEETING. AS TO SECOND SESSION, HE FELT THIS SHOULD TAKE PLACE OUT OF NEW YORK IN A TROPICAL COUNTRY. WE SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY THAT IF FIRST NEW YORK SESSION WAS FRUITFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE, SECOND SESSION MIGHT BE HELD IN JANUARY IN JAMAICA. RATINER UNDERTOOK ON BEHALF OF ENGO TO CONTACT DR. KENNETH RATTRAY, SOLICITOR GENERAL OF JAMAICA AND CHIEF LOS NEGOTIATOR, TO SUGGEST JAMAICA MEETING IN JANUARY. RATINER SPOKE WITH RATTRAY ON JULY 30. RATTRAY EXPRESSED PERSONAL VIEW THAT IDEA OF JAMAICA MEETING WAS EXCELLENT BUT WOULD HAVE TO CHECK WITH FONMIN.

2. IN OUR VIEW, IF INTERSESSIONAL PROGRAM IN COMMITTEE I IS TO BE SUCCESSFUL, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO WORK CLOSELY WITH ENGO ON DETAILS OF COMMITTEE I TEXT. WE RECOMMEND THAT DETAILS OF TEXT BE DISCUSSED AT NEXT GROUP OF FIVE MEETING. EMB SHOULD INFORM HOST GOVERNMENTS THAT U.S. IS PREPARED TO HOST GROUP OF FIVE MEETING ON COMMITTEE I (AS WELL AS COMMITTEE II AND DISPUTE SETTLEMENT ISSUES) IN NEW YORK BEGINNING TUESDAY, SEPT. 16. WE WILL SHORTLY SUGGEST SCHEDULE AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THIS MEETING. IT WILL BE IMPORTANT THAT IN ADDITION TO CHIEFS OF CONFIDENTIAL

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DELEGATION, PRINCIPAL COMMITTEE I EXPERTS SHOULD ALSO BE INCLUDED ON DELEGATIONS. AS INDICATED IN TOKYO MEETING US WILL SUBMIT TO MEMBERS OF GROUP OF FIVE ANALYTIC PAPER ON COMMITTEE I TEXT IN ADVANCE OF SEPTEMBER MEETINGS.

3. WE BELIEVE SEPTEMBER 16 GROUP OF FIVE REVIEW OF COMMITTEE I ISSUES WOULD BENEFIT IF WE HAD LATEST READING ON ENGO'S THINKING ON BOTH SUBSTANCE AND PROCEDURE.

ACCORDINGLY, WE PLAN THAT LEIGH RATNER AND ANOTHER US LOS OFFICIAL VISIT YAOUNDE IN EARLY SEPTEMBER RATHER THAN AUGUST AND IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO GROUP OF FIVE CONSULTATIONS AND REPORT TO GROUP OF FIVE ON RESULTS THESE TALKS. MEETING WOULD BE TO COLLECT INFORMATION ON ENGO'S PLANS -- NOT TO NEGOTIATE CHANGES IN TEXT. WE ALSO SEE ADVANTAGE IN A SECOND MEETING WITH ENGO, POSSIBLY WITH TWO MEMBERS OF GROUP OF FIVE, TO GO INTO SUBSTANTIVE REVIEW OF SINGLE TEXT WITH OBJECT OF WORKING WITH ENGO TO MODIFY TEXT. TO BE EFFECTIVE THIS SECOND VISIT WOULD HAVE TO TAKE PLACE PRIOR TO GROUP OF 77 MEETING BUT SHOULD FOLLOW GROUP OF FIVE MEETING SO AS TO REFLECT RESULTS OF JOINT CONSULTATIONS. WE BELIEVE THIS SHOULD TAKE PLACE LATE IN SEPTEMBER.

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF GROUP OF FIVE ON OUR THINKING ON THIS ISSUE.

5. FOR YAOUNDE. WE WOULD LIKE TO PLACE A SECOND CALL TO ENGO ON FRIDAY AUGUST 8 OR DURING WEEK OF AUGUST 11. PLEASE DETERMINE AND ADVISE SUITABLE TIME FOR CALL TO BE PLACED. KISSINGER

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